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~~SECRET~~ KIMBO SECTION ONE OF TWO

2/Q, VHN/R03-64 S5220 RPT 2/Q, VHN/R03 ST220

SILC - DAILY | DRV DIGETS, DE SOTO PATROLS 01 AUGUST 1964

I. HIGHLIGHT:

A. INITIAL REACTION BY NORTH VIETNAMESE ELEMENTS TO THE
DESOTO PATROL REFLECTED GT 311920Z WHEN SOUTHERN FLEET HEADQUARTERS
BEN THUY INFORMED AN UNIDENTIFIED OUTSTATION OF AN ENEMY SHIP
"TWENTY NAUTICAL MILES FROM LY HOA (17-38N 106-30E) BEARING FIFTY
DEGREES." SUBSEQUENTLY, AT 312304Z, TWO RADAR SITES BEGAN REPORTING
THE DE SOTO'S PROGRESS UP THE COAST. AT 011627Z BEN THUY
NOTIFIED T-255 THAT "IT HAS BEEN DECIDED TO FIGHT THE ENEMY
TONIGHT." AT LEAST THREE DRV NAVAL VESSELS WERE THEN DEPLOYED TO
THE HON NE (19-54-40N 106-00-40E) GENECAL AREA AND NON-NAVAL
ENTITIES IN THE AREA WERE POSSIBLY WITHDRAWN TO AN NAP (20-35N
106-17E) (SEE 2/0XVHN/R27-64).

B. AS A RESULT OF THE ACTIVITY OF THE DE SOTO PATROL IN THE
HON ME (17-21N 105-46E) AREA AS MANY AS EIGHT DRV VESSELS MAY

105-50E. THE T-142, T-146 AND THREE VESSELS OF UNIDENTIFIED
BATTALIONCQET ARE IN THE GENERAL HON NE (19-54-40N 106-08-40E)

AREA. ALL VESSELS ARE PROBABLY SWATOAPR,
ONE MAY BE A SO-1 CLASS SUBCHASER.

II. DRV NAVY, FLEET OPERATIONS:

A. LEVEL OF ACTIVITY

1. DURING THE PERIOD 311700Z - 012300Z DRV NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS WERE NORMAL WITH TEN VESSELS REFLECTED INCLUDING: ONE SO-1 CLASS SUBCHASER T-231; TWO SWATOW CLASS PGMS T-142, T-146, PROBABLE SWATOW CLASS T-255, T-339, T-377 AND FOUR UNIDENTIFIED.

B. MAINLINE NETS:

1. DRV NAVAL HEADQUARTERS HAIPHONG WAS ACTIVE WITH TWO VESSELS, ONE SO-1 CLASS SUBCHASER AND ONE UNIDENTIFIED PLUS THREE UNLOCATED OUTSTATIONS ON THE COMMAND NET AND WITH NORTHERN FLEET HEADQUARTERS PORT WALLUT, SOUTHERN FLEET HEADQUARTERS BEN THUY AND SOUTHERN FLEET SUBORDINAT ACTIVITY BA DON. REMAINING COMMAND ECHELON NETS NORMAL.

C. NORTHERN FLEET AREA, PORT WALLUTPC

1. SIX VESSELS WERE OBSERVED ACTIVE INCLUDING SWATOW
CLASS PGMS T-142, T-146, T-339 (FIRST APPEARANCE) AND THREE UN-
IDENTIFIED.

2. PATROL ACTIVITY:

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2/G VHN/R23-64 ST220 RPT 2/G VHN/R23 ST220

E. NAVAL TRACKING:

1. HAIPHONG, PORT WALLUT AND BEN THUY

TRACKING CONTROLS WERE ACTIVE WITH VINH SON, PROBABLY HON NGU AND HON MATT, AND TWELVE UNLOCATED OUTSTATIONS. A TOTAL OF SIXTY-SIX MESSAGES WERE OBSERVED. THE SITES AT VINH SON, HON NGU AND HON MATT (17-57N 106-30E, 18-48N 105-58E, 18-47N 105-56E) PASSED FIFTY-FIVE MESSAGES BETWEEN 312304Z - 011427Z WHICH REFLECTED THE DE SOTO'S ORBITS IN THE VICINITY OF POINTS BRAVO AND CHARLIE.

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IV. DRV SHIPPING/FISHING

A. COASTAL SHIPPING:

1. DRV COASTAL SHIPPING COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERED NORMAL WITH FOUR VESSELS NOTED ACTIVE. AT 0917Z HAIPHONG (VOP) INFORMED THE CARGO VESSEL THONG NHAT (VXHH) IN A BADLY GARBLED MESSAGE TO "COMMUNICATE WITH THE LOCAL MILITARY ((XGM)) NAVY ORDERS NOT TO ((XGM)) AWAIT NEW ORDERS."

B. FISHING FLEET:

1. AT LEAST EIGHT DRV FISHING VESSELS WERE CONSIDERED ACTIVE AND OPERATION. AT 1340Z HAIPHONG (VOU2) SENT A HIGH PRECEDENCE FIVE GROUP, UNREADABLE, CIPHER MESSAGE TO ALL VESSELS OF THE VIET DUC, VIET TRUNG, AND VIET XO CLASS, THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS MESSAGE IS UNDETERMINED; HOWEVER, IT MAY HAVE BEEN TRIGGERED BY THE PRESENCE OF THE DE SOTO PATROL.

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